

What Is Claimed Is

1. A prosthetic acetabular component for a prosthetic total hip joint, said component comprising two constructs, one being a metal base construct that engages the bone and the other being a polyethylene bearing construct that attaches to the metal base construct and articulates with a prosthetic femoral stem component on the opposing side of the joint, where said metal base construct is composed of two different metals, a first metal which engages the bone surface and a second metal which engages the polyethylene bearing construct, with the first metal being selected so as to provide a superior bone-engaging face, and the second metal being selected so as to provide a superior polyethylene-engaging face.

2. A prosthetic acetabular component according to claim 1 wherein said first metal comprises titanium.

3. A prosthetic acetabular component according to claim 1 wherein said first metal comprises a titanium alloy.

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4. A prosthetic acetabular component according to claim 1 wherein said first metal comprises tantalum.

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5. A prosthetic acetabular component according to claim 1 wherein said first metal comprises a tantalum alloy.

6. A prosthetic acetabular component according to claim 1 wherein said first metal comprises a material which is highly biocompatible and which exhibits good bone ingrowth properties.

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7. A prosthetic acetabular component according to claim 1 wherein said second metal comprises CoCrMo.

8. A prosthetic acetabular component according to claim 1 wherein said second metal comprises a cobalt based alloy.

5 9. A prosthetic acetabular component according to claim 1 wherein said second metal comprises a stainless steel.

10. A prosthetic acetabular component according to claim 1 wherein said second metal comprises a zirconium based alloy.

11. A prosthetic acetabular component according to claim 1 wherein said second metal comprises a material which has relatively high hardness and which is scratch resistant.